

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 OMB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 AID-05

SAJ-01 /095 W

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R 111435Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2814

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0358

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AO, CU, ZA

SUBJECT: CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA

REF: LUSAKA 86 AND 99

1. DURING LUNCHTIME CONVERSATION WITH VINCE MIJONI, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL ON FEB. 11, WE DISCUSSED VOA REPORT THAT CUBAN POPULACE IS BECOMING RESENTFUL OF DOING SOVIET DIRTY WORK IN ANGOLA. MIJONI WAS INTRIGUED AND SOUGHT MORE DETAILS ON DEGREE OF CUBAN DISENCHANTMENT. SAID IT WOULD MAKE GOOD EDITORIAL LINE. I SAID WE WOULD REQUEST WASHINGTON TO SUPPLY US WITH GREATEST POSSIBLE DETAIL FOR HIS USE.

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2. MIJONI REMARKED THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAS BEEN ONE OF FEW AFRICAN

LEADERS TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST CUBANS IN ANGOLA. I SAID WE THOUGHT PRESIDENT'S VOICE HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT CAUTIOUS AND RESTRAINED DURING JANUARY VISIT TO LUSAKA OF CUBAN MISSION LED BY OSMANY CIENFUEGOS (REFTELS). ADDED THAT WE UNDERSTOOD REASONS WHY PRESIDENT SPOKE SOFTLY AT THAT TIME, ASSUMING STATE HOUSE THEN THOUGHT THAT COURTESY AND GENTLE DIPLOMATIC PERSUASION COULD INDUCE CUBANS TO RECONSIDER THEIR INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS HAVE PROVED OTHERWISE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: ASSUMING MIJONI PREPARED TO GO AHEAD WITH AN EDITORIAL ALONG LINES WE DISCUSSED, AND ASSUMING STATE HOUSE NO LONGER HOPEFUL THAT "SOFT" APPROACH TOWARD CUBANS WILL PRODUCE RESULTS, WE MAY HAVE GOOD OPPORTUNITIES GET ADDITIONAL FACTS ABOUT CUBAN INTERVENTION AND ITS POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS ELSEWHERE BEFORE ZAMBIAN PUBLIC. PLEASE PROVIDE US ASAP WITH AS MUCH MATERIAL AS POSSIBLE SUITABLE FOR PUBLICATION ON REPORTED DISENCHANTMENT WITHIN CUBA OVER ANGOLAN INVOLVEMENT.
WILKOWSKI

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NNN

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